

Application Serial No.: 10/780,341
Attorney Docket No.: BUR920000061US1

REMARKS

Claims 19-38 are pending in the present application. Claims 11-14 have been newly canceled as being directed to a separate invention. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application to prosecute the canceled claims. Claims 19-22 and 25 have been amended. Claims 26-38 have been added. Claims 1-10 and 15-18 were canceled previously.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks appearing below.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because reference numerals "34" and "3" of Fig. 2 were not defined in the specification and reference numerals "5" and "6" of Fig. 3 were not defined in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Reference character "34" designates a "plurality of apertures." Reference character "34" is defined and discussed in detail in the paragraph discussing Fig. 3 on page 7, lines 13-26 of the present application.

As appears in the "Brief Description of the Drawing" section on page 4 of the present application, each of reference numerals "3," "5" and "6" designates the plane of a cross-sectional view for the associated figure. For example, the two reference numerals "3" in Fig. 2 refer to the cross-sectional view of Fig. 3. Likewise, reference numerals "5" and "6" in Fig. 4 refer to the cross-sectional views of Fig. 5. and Fig. 6, respectively.

Applicant submits that the drawings and reference numerals are defined and correct. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the present objection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 19, 20 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,928,426 to Aitchison ("the Aitchison patent"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

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Independent claim 19, as amended, requires "baffling, using said at least one substrate, the exhaust gas within said chamber so as to increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within said chamber" and "causing the first chemical component to be chemical vapor deposited onto said at least one substrate." In contrast, the Aitchison patent provides a "plurality of substantially parallel plates" through the chamber (Col. 2, ll. 42-44 and illustrated in FIGS. 2, 3 and 4) allowing an unbaffled flow of exhaust gas through the chamber without increasing the residence time of the exhaust gas within the chamber. Applicant respectfully submits the Aitchison patent does not disclose or suggest using the at least one substrate for baffling "the exhaust gas within said chamber so as to increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within said chamber."

For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits the Aitchison patent cannot reasonably be said to anticipate the method of claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the present rejection of claim 19.

Claims 20 and 25 depend from claim 19, and so are believed to be patentable for at least the reason claim 19 is patentable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the present rejection with respect to claims 19, 20 and 25.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in view of the Aitchison patent and a rejection of claims 19, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,945,078 to Taylor ("the Taylor patent") in view of the Aitchison patent. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The method of amended claim 19, from which claims 21-24 ultimately depend from, requires "baffling, using said at least one substrate, the exhaust gas within said chamber so as to increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within said chamber." As provided above, the Aitchison patent does not disclose or suggest utilizing baffles or substrates to increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within said chamber." Additionally, the Taylor patent provides a process for scrubbing a gas stream by "contacting the gas stream with an aqueous solution of

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hydrochloric acid (HF) or a solution containing the hydrogen fluoride ion HF₂⁻ and an oxidizing agent." (Col. 1, ll. 35-39) The Taylor patent is completely silent as to baffling the exhaust gas flow to "increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within said chamber," as required by claim 19.

For at least these reasons, the Aitchison and Taylor patents, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the method of claim 19. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 19.

Claims 21-24 ultimately depend from claim 19, and so are believed to be patentable for at least the reason claim 19 is patentable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the present rejection with respect to claims 19 and 21-24.

New Claims

New claims 26-38 have been added. Claims 27-34 ultimately depend from independent claim 26 and claims 35-38 ultimately depend from claim 19.

The method of new claim 26 requires "baffling, using said at least one substrate, the exhaust gas within said chamber so as to increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within said chamber; and causing an n-doped layer of silicon to be chemical vapor deposited onto said at least one substrate." As discussed above, neither the Aitchison nor Taylor patents disclose or suggest, alone or in combination, baffling the exhaust gas within the chamber to increase the residence time of the exhaust gas within the chamber with at least one substrate. Moreover, both the Aitchison and Taylor patents are completely silent as to causing an n-doped layer of silicon to be chemical vapor deposited onto the at least one substrate.

New claims 31 and 35 each require that "said at least one substrate has a plurality of apertures" and the baffling be "performed by causing the exhaust gas to flow substantially only through said plurality of apertures;" new claims 32 and 36 each require that "said enclosure contains a plurality of substrates arranged in series with one another along said chamber so as to baffle flow of the exhaust gas;" new claims 33 and 37 each require that "said plurality of substrates are arranged within said chamber so as to cause the exhaust gas to flow along a substantially serpentine path within said chamber;" and new claims 34 and 38 each require that

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“each of said plurality of substrates comprises a plurality of apertures” and the baffling be “performed by causing the exhaust gas to flow substantially only through said plurality of apertures of each of said plurality of substrates.” Neither the Aitchison nor Taylor patents, nor any other reference of record, disclose or suggest any of these limitations in the context of the methods of independent claims 19 and 26. Therefore, it is Applicant’s position that new claims 31-38 are patentable over the references of record.

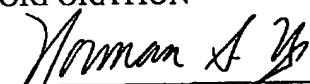
For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 26-38 are patentably distinguishable over the Aitchison and Taylor patents, alone or in combination.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that claims 19-38 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. If any issues remain, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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